



Newsletter Highlights

- Updates from the SHIP workgroups and subgroups,
- Resources, events, and educational opportunities from SHIP partners, and
- A calendar of upcoming SHIP events or opportunities.

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State Health Improvement Plan Newsletter

News

Thank you for your patience as the February newsletter slowly became the March newsletter! We've been busy placing a lot of new content on the [A Healthier Montana](#) website to start 2021 off on the right foot, including:

- The [2020 State Health Improvement Plan \(SHIP\) Annual Report](#),
- An [updated version of the 2019-2023 SHIP](#) with baselines and targets now included for every objective, and
- A [growing library](#) of recorded presentations on recent, cross-sector data that adds to our understanding of Montanan's health.

Over the next several months, we'll be developing an addendum to the SHIP that will address the impacts of COVID-19 on our shared public health priorities. We've conducted an initial scan of COVID-19 impacts using key informant interviews and we used our findings to develop a [survey. Please consider responding to help us understand the new landscape of health improvement efforts.](#)

As you'll see in the 2020 Annual Report, we accomplished a lot last year and we've got great work planned for 2021. Thank you for your continued dedication to improving the health of Montanans.



Upcoming Partner Events

Several statewide organizations have trainings and events available on an ongoing basis, including (but not limited to):

- The [Montana Primary Care Association](#),
- [Montana Peer Network](#),
- The [Montana Office of Rural Health](#), and
- The [Montana Public Health Training Center](#).

Upcoming SHIP Webinars

SHIP Webinar Series: Climate and Health in Montana: An Opportunity for Cooperation

Friday, March 19, 2021, 12:00 to 12:30 PM online via Zoom with Drs. Lori and Robert Byron, Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

The recently released "Climate Change and Human Health in Montana: A Special Report of the Montana Climate Assessment," called C2H2, provides a wealth of evidence about current and anticipated climate impacts on Montanans' health. Though daunting, addressing and preparing for those impacts will require cooperation and involvement by people from all sectors of our society, across disciplines, cultures, governments and political ideologies. Join Drs. Robert and Lori Byron, two of the co-authors of the report, as they discuss highlights of the report, with emphasis on the many opportunities for working together to avert climate change's worst impacts. Please [register in advance to attend](#).

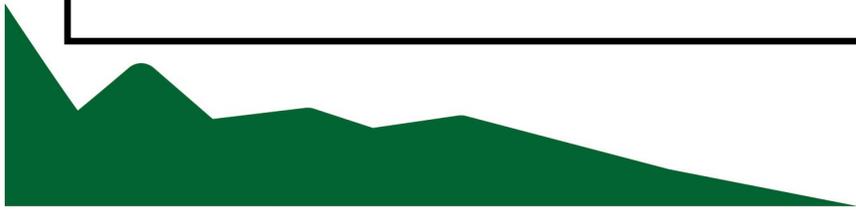
SHIP Webinar Series: Montana Children's Health Data Partnership Project

Friday, April 23, 2021, 12:00 to 12:30 PM online via Zoom with Brie MacLaurin, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies

Brie MacLaurin with Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies will share the findings of a collaborative effort to identify metrics for monitoring the health of mothers, babies, and youth in Montana at the local or community level. Please save the date and remember to [register in advance to attend](#).

Update: The most recent data webinar, [Connecting Data Resources to Montana Communities](#) with Montana Department of Labor and Industry Economist Nick Holom is now available on the [Implementation Library](#) page. Resources shared during the webinar include:

- [Montana Job Tracking Dashboard](#)
- [Montana Unemployment Insurance Tracking Dashboard](#)
- [Telework and Non-telework Occupations: Effects of the Pandemic in Montana \(report\)](#)
- [Subscribe to "Economy at a Glance" updates](#)
- [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) (data download tool)
- [Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages](#) (data download tool)





- The Montana Public Health Training Center at the University of Montana has launched a new [wellness program](#) to support public health professionals. Statewide public health department workers can access health coaching support as well as weekly self-care breaks and wellness workshops.
- The National Governor's Association Center for Best Practices has released the [2020 Maternal and Child Health Update](#), along with a [supplementary report](#) addressing COVID-19 impacts. This report includes findings from a survey administered to multiple types of state and territory agencies, including Maternal and Child Health Directors, Medicaid Directors, and Governors' offices. Forty-three states and territories participated.
- The Montana Crisis Recovery Program was created to provide crisis counseling to help ease the mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The [Montana Crisis Recovery](#) website is now ready for sharing, in addition to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages. Please consider sharing these resources with your partners and contact Lonni Starcevich, Crisis Counseling Program Specialist, at Lonni.Starcevich@mt.gov for more information.
- [DriveSafeMissoula.com](#) is the new online home for Missoula County's Buckle Up Montana Coalition and DUI Task Force. Along with meeting information, the website serves as a hub for families looking to get information regarding Child Passenger Safety, DUI Prevention, and general safe driving information. The Drive Safe Missoula Blog is a community collaboration platform highlighting many of our Drive Safe partners and their voices regarding safer driving behaviors. If you have traffic safety info, we can help spread the word on our blog. Feel free to reach out to Steve Schmidt with questions at sschmidt@missoulacounty.us, and drive safe!
- Exciting news! Montana joined the ranks of more than 30 states with the launch of the Montana Public Health Institute (MTPHI) in 2020. MTPHI is a nonprofit aimed at strengthening Montana's public health system capacity, focusing on its rural, frontier and tribal communities and supporting sound health policy and funding. For additional information visit mtphi.org.
- The Montana Disability and Health Program hosted a webinar on Feb. 23, 2021 about adaptive recreation technologies and programs that support people with disabilities to increase their physical activity minutes and physical fitness. Through examples from Montana, people across the nation can discover new ways to explore the great outdoors, engage in fitness and reconnect with communities. Watch the archived webinar and access resources at <http://mtdh.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/?p=7840>.

Recent Data Products on Montana's SHIP Health Priority Areas

- Three new infographics on [Chronic Disease](#), [Tobacco Use](#), and [Drug Overdose](#)
- Factsheets on [Opioid Use](#), [Meth Use](#), [Alcohol Use](#), [Heroin Use](#), and [Cannabis Use](#)

Visit the [Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support](#) for more recent reports on topics like COVID-19 associated deaths, youth cannabis consumption, summary of methamphetamine use in Montana, and more.